

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A front end portion of a center electrode 3 is a circular cylindrical center-electrode noble-metal ablation resistance portion 31 whose radius  $r$  mm and length  $l$  mm are determined so as to satisfy  $5 \leq l/r^2 < 20$ . An ignition-performance-improving ground electrode 4 is configured such that a distal end portion thereof is bent in a direction toward the center electrode 3; and a rear end-edge 32t of a distal end surface 4s, 32s is located forward in relation to a front end surface 31a of the center-electrode noble-metal ablation resistance portion 31. In orthogonal projection on a projection plane P perpendicularly intersecting an axis O of the center electrode 3, the rear end-edge 32t is located outward in relation to the front end surface 31a of the center-electrode noble-metal ablation resistance portion 31. A portion of the ignition-performance-improving ground electrode 4 which includes at least the rear end-edge 32t is a ground-electrode noble-metal ablation resistance portion 32.